

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Shuji HIRAKATA et al.

Application No.: New US Application

Filed: April 21, 2004

Docket No.: 119506

For: FUEL CELL SYSTEM AND ASSOCIATED OPERATION METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- 2. Relevance of the non-English language reference No. 1 is discussed in the present specification.
- 3. English-language Abstracts of the non-English language references are attached hereto.
- 4. A computer-generated English translation of the following Japanese Patent Publication has been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office ([<http://www.jpo.go.jp>]), and is attached, but has not been reviewed for accuracy. See References 1-3.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Thomas J. Pardini
Registration No. 30,411

JAO:TJP/tmw

Date: April 21, 2004

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE
AUTHORIZATION
Please grant any extension
necessary for entry;
Charge any fee due to our
Deposit Account No. 15-0461

Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83)		US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY DOCKET NO. 119506	APPLICATION NO. New US Application		
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)		APPLICANTS Shuji HIRAKATA et al.				
		FILING DATE April 21, 2004				
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS
	1	JP A 2000-292195 (with abstract and translation)	10/20/2000	Japan		
	2	JP A 7-169476 (with abstract and translation)	07/04/1995	Japan		
	3	JP A 2001-231108 (with abstract and translation)	08/24/2001	Japan		
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)						
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED	
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.						